



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building
125 South State Street, Room 4402
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1100

November 21, 2007

UTAH BULLETIN UT300-08-10

SUBJECT: LTP - PORTABLE EQUIPMENT PROGRAM PAYMENTS

Expiration Date: Until further notice.

Purpose: To clarify circumstances where portable equipment is allowable for program payments.

Reference: 440-CPM, Section 515.91)

(ix) Pumps and pumping equipment:

Portable equipment may be eligible only if moving that equipment will result in environmental benefit to a larger area on the farm or if use of portable equipment will reduce costs by eliminating the need to install more than one piece of fixed equipment. Portable equipment is not eligible if the purpose can be served as effectively with fixed, permanently installed equipment. Assisting participants in purchasing portable equipment raises important accountability issues. It is essential that, as a minimum, status reviews account for the use, whereabouts, and condition of such equipment.

Utah State Policy

NRCS-Utah will only provide program payments for portable equipment in very limited circumstances and in compliance with 440-CPM, Section 515.91.

As such, most **portable equipment is ineligible for program payments**, except for the following:

- Portable pumps for agricultural waste systems
- Portable irrigation pumps
- Portable stock water pumps

The State Conservationist will consider waivers to the above. Waivers shall be reviewed by the Area Engineer and concurred by the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (ASTC-FO) prior to submission to the State Conservationist for approval. All such waiver requests must be fully documented prior to submission for review. Every waiver request must document all of the following:

- Material will be new (i.e., not used)
- Equipment is an eligible component of a structural practice included in the Field Office Technical Guide

- Environmental benefits to a larger area
- Reduced costs in the conservation plan.
- Reason project cannot be served as effectively with fixed, permanently installed equipment
- Other information, as requested

Status Reviews

Annual status reviews will be conducted on **ALL** contracts that provided program payments for portable equipment. The status review must specifically document the presence of the portable items on site and its availability to provide the intended benefits. All portable equipment will be examined to assure it is operational and being maintained on the contract acres according to practice standards and contract requirements. Portable equipment provided via program payments may only be used for its intended purpose on land under contract.

O&M Plan

Documentation in the O&M plan will include the limitations for movement of the equipment and the circumstances in which the equipment shall be moved. Examples include: the need to move an irrigation pump during periods of high water or during winter to avoid damaging the equipment due to freezing, or the approved locations where the equipment may be located for conservation use.

Ineligible Portable Equipment

Portable equipment ineligible for program payments include, but are not limited to:

- no-till and tillage equipment;
- manure application, hauling, and injection equipment;
- pesticide application equipment;
- global positioning and precision farming equipment;
- fences;
- water tanks and troughs; and,
- similar equipment not specifically addressed as being eligible for program payments by program policy.

Contact: Lisa Coverdale, ASTC-Programs, (801) 524-4565 or lisa.coverdale@ut.usda.gov

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LISA COVERDALE
ASTC-Programs

Attachment
Distribution: E